Welcome back to the last exciting term in Prep!

This term we have a number of engaging events planned for the Prep students. A major event is the Prep Prom on 2nd December. Students have begun learning their songs and dance moves for this year’s jungle theme. There is also a science incursion, a year book to prepare and 2017 day to look forward to, when students will spend the day with their Year One teacher and new classmates for next year.

English

During Term 4, the students will continue with our Whole School Approach to reading using the C.A.F.E. Reading Program. This program emphasises the importance of comprehension alongside accuracy, fluency and expanding vocabulary. This term the students will focus on visualising, inferring, building vocabulary, questioning and rhyming words in texts. They will also focus on one digraph (e.g. ‘ph’ and ‘wh’) or word family (e.g. ‘-ale’ as in ‘whale’ and ‘sale’) each week. The students will participate in small focus groups that provide guidance and will support them in
This term, Prep students will be looking more closely at our Whole School Writing Program - VOICES. They will explore VOICES through a variety of text types including narratives, reflections, recounts, procedural texts and persuasive writing. They will continue to look at digraphs - two letters that make one sound —and using these spelling patterns in their writing. Students have enjoyed taking home their class pet and will continue to write letters to the Students of the Week.

**Voice:** Creating a piece which is lively and engaging to target the readers.

**Organisation:** The sequence of writing should make sense and include word transitions and also a clear beginning, middle and end.

**Ideas:** Including clear and exciting material which will provide the details for their writing.

**Conventions:** The use of correct punctuation, spelling and grammar.

**Excellent Word Choice:** Choosing creative and engaging words to enhance and create excitement for the reader.

**Sentence Fluency:** The sentences should be of different lengths, including short simple sentences with the use of connectives.

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**MATHEMATICS**

We have a great term of Mathematics planned for Prep students! The Prep teachers will continue to plan engaging learning tasks using games and ‘hands on’ manipulatives to support and extend students. We will cover the following areas of the curriculum this term: Data and Graphing, Length, Addition, Number Patterns, Mass, and Subtraction. Students will learn to gather and sort data. We will focus on representing data using tables and tally marks, before using bar graphs and pictographs to represent this data. Students will generate questions and answers about their data and graphs. We will begin comparing the mass and length using informal units of measurement for length such as blocks, paper clips, and teddies. Students will learn to add and subtract two groups, represent this as an equation and count on from the larger number in addition. Students will have the opportunity to recognise and create number patterns through using odd and even numbers, and skip counting.
In Term 4 we will be exploring the topic: Persistence.

In this unit, the lessons will promote children’s tolerance reducing frustration and their ability to maintain their focus and involvement in learning tasks. They will be encouraged to keep on trying when things seem difficult or require making more than one attempt to succeed.

Examples of persistent behaviour are:

- Tidying up after playing with the school equipment even if they are tired or reluctant.
- Completing a new puzzle.
- Learning to tie their own shoe laces.
- Persisting when learning to write new words.

Prep Prom

Prep Prom is a wonderful evening event that celebrates the students’ first year of school. On Friday 2nd December, you and your family are invited to join in the Jungle themed show presented by the Prep students. Each class will perform a different song and dance. Optional family portraits will be taken at the beginning of the night and will be given to you at the end of the year on a USB stick.

Term 4 Important Dates

Chess Club begins..................................Thurs 20th Oct
Melbourne Cup: Public holiday.........  Tues 1st Nov
Light and Sound incursion....................Wed 2nd Nov
Count Us In (whole school) ..............Thurs 3rd Nov
Prep Prom ........................................Fri 2nd Dec
2017 Day .........................................  Thurs 15th Dec
Reports go home ..............................Fri 16th Dec
Last Day of Term 4 .........................  Tues 20th Dec
Early dismissal at 1.30pm